



NEWS RELEASE

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SMALL BUSINESS START-UP HELP AVAILABLE IN ARABIC ON SBA WEBSITE

WASHINGTON – Entrepreneurs worldwide who would like information in Arabic about starting or growing their small businesses can now turn to the U.S. Small Business Administration for help.

The translation of basic start-up information and the directory of small business resources was a joint effort of the SBA's Office of Women's Business Ownership and Office of International Trade in cooperation with the U.S. Agency for International Development. Other projects of this partnership include training in business development and international trade and establishing Business Information Centers and Women's Business Centers in Egypt.

"President Bush recognizes that the road to personal freedom is paved with the rewards of small business ownership and the economic independence it provides," said SBA Administrator Hector V. Barreto. **"The SBA is pleased to provide the informational tools to help people of all nationalities build a better life for themselves and their families, whether they live in the United States or are our international friends and neighbors,"** said Barreto.

The address for the Arabic Web site is <http://www.onlinewbc.gov/docs/arabic/main.htm>.

This is the sixth translation the Office of Women's Business Ownership has produced since the first one in Spanish in 1998. In addition to Spanish and Arabic, business start-up and expansion information is also available in Chinese, Japanese, Russian and Icelandic from the SBA's Online WBC. These translations and all the services of the Online WBC are available at <http://www.onlinewbc.gov>.

"We want to break down the barriers to small business development wherever and however we can," said Kaaren Johnson Street, SBA associate deputy administrator for entrepreneurial development. Street oversees the Office of Women's Business Ownership at the SBA. She said while it is critically important to help new small businesses start in this country, it is also necessary to think globally by providing information to help small businesses overseas.

"We want to increase opportunities for small businesses in this country to conduct business in other countries. What could be more comforting to foreign business owners than reading in their own languages how we do business in the United States?" asked Street.

*For more information about SBA's programs for small businesses, call the SBA Answer Desk at 1-800 U ASK SBA or TDD 704-344-6640 or visit the SBA's extensive Web site at www.sba.gov. The SBA, in co-sponsorship with Staples, has introduced an online newsletter **SBA Solutions**. For a free subscription, go to <http://web.sba.gov/list>, and select New **SBA Solutions Newsletter**.*

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